

Mary Roberts Rinehart

THERE used to be a foolish rumor that women have no sense of humor, and can't inspire a smile; but Mrs. Rinehart's joyous stories, among their other charms and glories have wit that's worth the while. Her "sense of humor" fairly bubbles, and makes a guy forget his troubles, his worries and his debts; of all the cheerful books I treasure, of all which give me endless pleasure, her novels are my pets. The fiction fans, in countless legions, throughout all sane, enlightened regions, entranced, enraptured look, when buy publishers, at hinting that they are now engaged in printing another Rinehart book. That means another round of laughter, without distress or colic after, a tonic for the mind, a solace for the soul that's weary, a book to cheer the day that's dreary, and ease the beastly grind. They say that Mary's coming money; I hope it's true—a dame so funny should have a big reward; she came, this great and graceful writer, she came to make the gray world brighter, animated by the Lord.
—WALT MASON.
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Postponed Or Averted?

WHILE Europe seethes with international strife, the United States has been facing the worst domestic disturbance of 40 years—the threatened strike on western railroads. The big news from Europe has in a measure obscured the domestic news, so that the real significance of the strike pronouncement has so far not seeped into the mind of the average reader. Yet, if the proposed strike should go into effect, it would cause greater loss and distress in a financial and economic sense, for the time it lasted, than would a great war.

Fifty-five thousand engineers on 98 railroads covering 140,000 miles of line contend that the railroads are trying to take from them the advantages in schedules and operating practice which have required 30 years to build up. The railroads contend that they have no desire to impair in any way the status of the engineers, but must resist certain demands as to operating practice which they regard as unfair, and must avoid any large increase in total wage disbursements.

The engineers ask for substantial increases in all wage schedules, and marked differentials in favor of those engineers running Mallet and other extra heavy engines. They ask for many concessions in the way of increased payment for time at terminals, layovers, deadheading, etc., practically all of which the railroads decline to grant.

The dispute has been hanging for nine months, and for more than three months active negotiations have been under way between the representatives of the engineers and the committee of railroad managers. A deadlock has been reached, the men have voted almost unanimously for a strike, and now the federal board is to arbitrate the dispute.

Had there been a strike, the railroads would have found themselves powerless to operate more than a few mail trains and fast freights, while 90 percent of the usual traffic of the roads would cease or be handled under almost insupportable disadvantages.

Under such circumstances, the business of the country would receive such a shock as it never has had before in this generation. At the height of the crop moving and merchandise moving season, and at the height of the fall and winter buying season, the whole country west of the Mississippi valley would find itself without transportation facilities, and the industrial east, largely dependent on the west for raw materials and provisions for subsistence, would be left dependent solely on stocks in hand, which are never sufficient for more than a few weeks run at best.

A prolonged strike over the western railroads would necessarily involve the eastern roads also, and the resulting losses and distress would not fall far short of the effects of a collision of the earth with another planet.

The reports of the long continued negotiations, and the published correspondence between the representative committees, contain much that is purely technical, of keen interest to railroad men, but not intelligible to the general public. The railroad men are already informed through their own organizations, and it is the general public that most needs information at this crisis. In the El Paso district, perhaps 700 or 800 men are directly affected by the strike proposed, but at least ten times as many railroad employees are indirectly affected, and with their families this makes some 40,000 persons dependent on railroad employment, who are concerned closely in the outcome of the arbitration. In addition, all industries and all mercantile establishments will be affected, and this will involve the total population.

Consequently, the general public is entitled to the facts, so as to form an opinion, for public opinion in the long run settles such problems. The engineers directly concerned on the western roads might lose \$1,500,000 a week in wages, but the country as a whole would lose \$400,000,000 a week if the whole transportation system of the country should be put out of business for any considerable length of time. Compared with such a possibility, even the general European war which seems to threaten, dwindles in importance.

The politicians at Washington simply cannot afford to let a general strike ensue in the midst of a critical congressional campaign. The fate of the Democratic majority rests largely on the outcome of the railroad crisis. This is true even though that party could not in fairness be held responsible in any way for the strike. The public is not always fair in judgment, and widespread distress in the midst of the campaign, though really due to causes wholly outside of party politics, would almost inevitably result in votes unfavorable to the party in power. The government has felt bound to avert the strike by some means, or face partial defeat in the fall elections.

The railroads assert that the present payrolls of engineers on western railroads, \$68,000,000 a year, would be increased by \$33,000,000, or more than 50 percent, if all the demands of the engineers should be granted. The engineers deny that there would be any such heavy increase, and in any event they say, the engineers' payrolls have not been an important factor in increased operating costs in recent years, and they maintain that engineers have actually received less and less per unit of work done, through the passing years.

The railroads interpret the demands of the engineers as involving a decrease of 50 percent in average hours of straight-time labor in passenger service, and 20 percent in freight service, with corresponding increase of overtime payments by 100 percent in passenger and 50 percent in freight service. The engineers contend that they seek only the removal of certain burdens which they deem injustices under present practice.

When the engineers served notice last October that they desired the schedules revised, the railroads at once terminated all schedules, and the men assert that this wipes out at one stroke all that has been won for the men in 30 years of organized activity. The men claim that the railroads are taking advantage of the interim to revert to practices long outlawed under union agreements. The railroads deny this, and assert that they are living up to the schedules of 1913 in every particular pending a settlement, and are ready to sign a new agreement on the 1913 basis.

The original requests of the engineers were presented October 10. When declined by the railroads, the men formulated revised demands which the railroads deemed even more onerous, since they still further reduced the hours of labor demanded in the first proposal, and thus increased the overtime payments required. Under the plan of arbitration proposed by the federal board and today accepted by both sides, the original proposition only will be discussed, all subsequent demands of both sides will be withdrawn, and the schedules existing prior to October 1913 will remain in force pending the result of arbitration.

The engineers had already accepted the proposal. They had previously declared, officially, that they would "necessarily reject any proposition to arbitrate, because in all recent arbitrations railroads have repudiated arbitration awards." The railroads challenged the men to prove the statement, and the men adduced several instances, which, however, the managers asserted were not pertinent to the charge.

The engineers make out a strong case, supported by government statistics and the railroads' own reports, to show that increased costs have not been due to payments to engineers. They assert that the plight of the railroads is due solely to bad financial management and dishonest and unlawful exploitation, in the face of which the operating management, which they concede is efficient, has been seriously hampered. They do not see why they should be made to suffer the penalties of the bad financial management of the roads.

Carelessness with parlor matches of a matrimonial character is as dangerous as carelessness with those of an illuminating character.

War Correspondents

BY GEORGE FITCH.
Author of "At Good Old Slaves."

A WAR correspondent is a man who shoulders his lead pencil and goes to war.

The correspondent does not kill large batches of the foe with his pencil. In fact he is not at all fatal. He merely accompanies the army.

This is pleasant, easy work between battles when the army has to drill and do chores while the correspondent sits under the shade of a tree and drinks cool stuff, bought at \$1 a pint and charged to his newspaper. Being a war correspondent when the army is not shooting is a delightful job and mostly wrought after.

But when two armies try to occupy the same place at the same time and the air becomes instead with steel-jacketed bullets to such an extent that many a man whose nose has tickled has suddenly lost the wherewithal to sneeze, the war correspondent's lot is very unpleasant.

It is then the duty of the correspondent to remain about the battlefield picking up items of news which will be of interest to the folks back home. Those who have tried to fire at a correspondent through a swarm of bullets, who are looking for the man who smashed their nest will realize to some extent the unpleasantness of strolling around a battlefield.

Many a war correspondent has gone out with a light heart and an empty note book, and has been brought back with a neat tunnel where his digestive organs once resided.

War correspondents get very big wages and are also allowed expense accounts. When a correspondent needs an aeroplane or a sea-going tug or a hotel in his business, he buys them and has the price charged to his newspaper. Correspondents lead luxurious



"Being a War Correspondent When the Army is Not Shooting is a Delightful Job."

lives, except when they are at the front with the army or are dodging cannon balls or are being shot by some peevish foreign general as a spy. They wait twenty times as much pay as a private. Yet men rush madly into the army to serve as privates and do not envy the correspondents.

This is a great mystery until we reflect that when a soldier is shot at he gets a chance to shoot back. Thanks to the war correspondent we know all about all the battles which are fought and also a good deal about the retail purchase of battle supplies. The war correspondent is a man who has fought at all—Copyrighted by George Matthews Adams.

LITTLE INTERVIEWS

"I HAVE finished my labors as 'anti ring' chairman of the Democratic county executive committee," said Tom Lea, "and I am glad to retire from the strenuousness of the job. I have made the returns of the vote for county officers to county clerk Park Pittman and I am sending out the returns on the state officers' nominations. With this work completed my duties are at an end. I will say that this time there was a fair count, but that is all I will say."

"Cloudcroft certainly has come into its own as an ideal summer resort," said Art Woods, "People are flocking there this summer, but there is no overcrowding, accommodations being ample for all. Cloudcroft has built for the future, as is attested by its first-class Lodge, the numerous cottages, most of them as modern as any to be found in El Paso, and its large pavilion where the scenery can find plenty of amusement of the beautiful, interesting kind, like bowling and dancing. The people of Cloudcroft treat you well and the summer colony is like one big, congenial family. I believe in Cloudcroft and am therefore glad to say a good word for the resort."

"It is peculiar to see what sort of events make people laugh," said John Roberts, "While we were in Gomez Palacio we had a Chinese cook named Wong, that was absolutely the most funny faced Oriental that ever made chop suey. Never did even a flicker of a smile relieve the gravity of his yellow face. In fact his joy-forsaken aspect caused a number of bets to be made among us in regard to the success of efforts to make him smile."

"Old time a party of us were expecting some guests to dinner. Our accommodations were not of the most elegant by any means and in moving around Edwin Emerson, correspondent for the New York World accidentally sat down upon some sticky fly paper lying on the top of a box. We were all unconscious of what had happened, but it succeeded where everything else had failed and struck Wong's sense of humor. Wong started laughing and shrieking with laughter until we thought he had hysteria."

"The Copper League will be a six-term circuit next season if present plans of the officials do not miscarry," said Tommy Smith, manager of the Santa Rita club. "Tyron is anxious to join the league, having already secured a number of good players, and it seems a certainty that El Paso will be represented. A lot of disappointment was felt in Hurley, Santa Rita and Silver City when El Paso failed to put a club in the league early this season. It is probable that arrangements to organize and perfect the league will be made during the winter and negotiations opened with manager Art Woods of the Cactus club and several other El Paso baseball promoters for the city to enter a team in the circuit."

"Henry Ford's newest profit sharing plan shows that he intends to divide his immense profits with his car buyers," said J. W. Kirkpatrick, manager of the Tri-State Motor company. "The retail purchase of automobiles in the United States is a big business, and the reduction of \$60 on the cars, effective August 1, was a big enough surprise but to offer from \$10 to \$50 refund to the retail purchaser providing the output reached 300,000, is more than I expected. It means that Henry Ford wishes to see every man in the United States who can afford any kind of an automobile, ride in a Ford car and it is going to stimulate the sale of these cars wonderfully this year."

"Kicks to the contrary, El Paso county Democrats conduct their conventions with a more strict regard for the election laws than most places," said P. H. Price, the newly elected district judge. "Steam roller methods are used in many places and the successful crowd runs things to suit itself regardless of the law, but in this county the conventions are held according to the election law and every delegate is given a chance to be heard. I think that is a strong recommendation in favor of the organization which controls, and is one of the secrets of its success."

"The proposed Underwood law requiring the reclamation service to render an accounting to congress for all of the monies which come to that department will not affect the Elephant Butte project vitally, if it is passed," said Felix Martinez, president of the Water Users' association. "The reclamation service has been run much as a separate bureau in the past and has had the disposal of the money that came from the sale of public lands. It is natural that congress wished to have a hand in the accounting of this money and it is probable that the bill will be passed."

HOUSTON FALL CONDUCTING NASHVILLE BUSINESS COLLEGE
Houston W. Fall, formerly a partner with E. W. Mitchell in the conduct of an employment agency in El Paso, is now located in Nashville, Tenn., where he is president of Fall's business college. The college was founded by his father, Alexander Fall, who died recently. Houston Fall has taken over the business and will conduct it in the future. Mr. Fall is secretary-treasurer of the Nashville Rotary club.

Abe Martin



A boy may show ever evidence of becoming a failure in life as still play "Home, Sweet Home" on his mouth organ without drooping a note. Pundit legislation don't seem to be interfering with his demand for heart balm in this country.

The Daily Novelette

WILLIGER'S WAY.
The weather it was very warm. The office was too hot. And so to keep themselves alive they drank an awful lot.

THE little birds were sitting around on twigs with their mouths open, the flowers were drooping, the very worms were perspiring. That's how hot it was. At 8:45 on his way to the office, Williger stopped in at McMan's and asked for an extra mint lulp. At 10 he said to the bookkeeper, "Getting worms, isn't it?" "Yes, sir," replied the bookkeeper, mopping. And the two of them went out and hit a couple of Bronx cock-tails.

At lunch he tried to cool off with a meidel of foaming Pilsner. At two o'clock he said to the bookkeeper, "Just be a hundred in the shade."

"Of an ice wagon," replied the bookkeeper. "How about going out and hitting one?" And they did, naming gin rickshaws, although a sign on the outside of the spring doors had suggested better milk. And at a o'clock Williger had another lulp with the bookkeeper, and on his way home at 5 he met Spifferts, who had also noticed the humidity, and they stopped in and had two nice ruddy debonair cocktails apiece.

About 7 o'clock it started to cool off wonderfully, and everybody in Williger's house, except Williger, commented on it, but Williger, though he had nothing to worry him and his feet were pointed at an electric fan, was so busy trying to keep himself cool, and wanted to know why, if it was so much cooler, he couldn't notice it.

100 Years Ago Today

ONE HUNDRED years ago today, following the indecisive battle at Lundy's Lane, the British army in the vicinity of Niagara Falls assumed the aggressive. Two distinct movements against the American forces were undertaken by the enemy. Gen. Drummond in command of a force of about 5000 British and Canadians, laid siege to Fort Erie, which was successfully defended by the Americans under Gen. Ripley. On the same day a division of the British army under Lieut. Col. Tucker crossed the Niagara river, below Black Rock, to attack Buffalo, but was met by Maj. Morris with a force of about 250 United States riflemen, who compelled the British to retreat and recross the Niagara without effecting their object. Only two men of the American force were killed in the encounter.

Chinks Pass Through City.
A party of Chinese passed through El Paso Saturday evening in bond from Havana to San Francisco and China. They were in charge of Immigration officers who guarded them closely while they were at the union station.

"This Is My Birthday Anniversary"

"I HAVE today only." Just think how much better life would be, if we called this fact to mind often. Suppose we started out each morning with the thought, "This is the only day I am sure of, so I will make it my best. I will do my work as well as I can. I will not worry or fret. I will carry a smile in my heart all day." Don't you think this would make a difference?

Today's birthday list reads:

Charles Osborn, 9.
Emma Wilson, 9.
Madeline Sturges, 11.
Lucille Carpenter, 12.
Haskell Brown, 13.

Sunday's list follows:

Edwin Ware, 8.
Helen Kennedy, 14.
Ouida Cramer, 9.
Margaret Olsen, 12.
Irene Campbell, 10.

"Miss Birthday" has a ticket of admission to the Bijou for each one of the boys and girls named above. Call at The Herald office.

Poly to Learn to Dance

By FLORENCE E. TODER.



THIS is a story about a puppy boy who thought too much of himself. Every since Poly, the puppy boy, had rescued the little pups from the burning building he was the most popular person in Tabbyland. He was invited out to supper every night in the week, and all of the kiddy girls and puppy girls were tickled to death if he paid any attention to them. Fannie Hicks, the puppy girl of whom he thought the most, had been angry with him because she thought that he had given her some ugly handkerchiefs to be a kind of a gift. But she made up with him after the fire, and he explained that it had not been his fault. Of course the other boys in Tabbyland began to feel jealous after a while. "Poly thinks that he owns the earth," whined Toby Hicks one night. "He makes me run all of his errands when he comes to see Fannie, and he acts like a silly gnat all of the girls' put in Binkie Tabby. Tommy said nothing, but he wrinkled his little black nose and twitched his whiskers, and hitched up his trousers just as if he were getting ready to give some one a licking."

The three were sitting out at one end of the yard in the Tabby lot, on the outside, up against the fence, watching the passing animals, and wishing for something to do. Tom stretched himself and sighed. "I like Poly first rate," he said, as he rolled over on his stomach. "But I think that he has worked his bravery to death. He thinks too much of himself—that's what he does. I wish that he would not be an shut-mouthed about what he does."

"Why?" asked Binkie. "Well," replied Tom, "if we only knew what he was doing this evening, we could help him perhaps—"

"Or hinder him," grinned Toby Hicks. "But the funny part is," continued Tommy, "that if we just let him alone he will come to grief by himself. He has run around too high in the air to get a fall. We wouldn't need to know what he was doing this evening, we could help him perhaps—"

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INDOOR SPORTS -:- WHEN THE OTHER GUYS HAVE HAVE ALL THE FUN

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INDOOR SPORTS
TAKING THE WIFES
ADVICE AND WEARING
THE NIGHT SCENERY
TO A CARD PARTY

14 Years Ago Today

From The Herald This Date 1900.

Dr. J. A. Rawlings returned last night from Johnson, near yard clerk. W. H. Wears and family will return to El Paso this evening and make El Paso their future home.

H. P. Noake has returned from Chihuahua, where he has been looking after his business interests.

Jim Heard went to Alamogordo this morning to accept a position with chief engineer Summer, of the E. P. & N. E.

The first dance of the Unity Social club was given last night at the Regent garden and was attended by over 100 couples.

Major Logan, of Fort Bliss, has the contract for laying the pipe to conduct the water from the mesa wells to the G. H. yards.

Major Gen. L. M. Openheimer returned from an inspection of a regiment of state troops on Buffalo Bayou, this morning.

Daniel Sullivan, stockyard foreman, and Clarence Johnson, night yard clerk, left this morning for St. Louis, to spend a 30 day vacation.

At the meeting of the board of directors of the Public Library, held last night, \$150 was appropriated for the purchase of books.

S. G. Reim easily won the swimming race at the institution last evening. The entire race is composed of six heats, one heat taking place every night.

The baseball team will leave Saturday morning for Deming, where they will play on that day. From Deming they will go on to Silver City, where they will play that club Sunday.

Superintendent W. B. Martin of the G. H. has been notified that he announced the suspension of the G. H. S. shows that the El Paso division under his supervision has captured first prize in the contest for the best division, this best district and the best section, following the third consecutive year that this has happened.